



## Alex Contreras Mendivil

May 11, 1926 - January 2, 2022

Alex C. Mendivil

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Born Alejandro Mendivil, May 11, 1926 on a farm in Gilbert Arizona to his parents, Salvador and Isabel Mendivil. Alex, later nicknamed “Cano” by his mother, was the youngest of his three siblings, Salvador II, Alfonso and Amelia.

During the great depression Cano’s family worked as farm hands on various farms; one being a dairy farm just south of Glendale run by General Glassford and another farm in nearby Tolleson, known as El Rancho de Tok. In 1938 his family moved to Fresno, California following after the harvest of crops to harvest grapes, then returning to Arizona in the winter of 1939.

Once back in Arizona his family worked on Brown and Marley Farms. During his first year back in Arizona he would graduate from grammar school at Kyrene School. Cano also became a farmhand at B&M Farms; where he planted, cultivated, and harvested grain and vegetable crops. He went to night school for Agricultural courses, he learned irrigation work, drove the small flat rack truck in the fields, was taught to fly the crop dusting plane, and the wheeled tractor to till the soil.

In May of 1944 Cano turned 18 and would soon be drafted into The Army Branch of Military Service on October 27, 1944. He was stationed at Camp Wolters, Texas for bootcamp and then shipped out to the Philippines to serve as Squad Leader with the 25th Infantry division in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operations for 18 months. As an assistant squad leader he supervised the retraining program of 8 men. He coordinated orders received from platoon leaders along with regulation program activities. He worked in small arms marksmanship, close-order, and extended drill. Then ending out his service holding rank as Sergeant. He recieved The Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, The Philippine Liberation Ribbon with BZ Star, The Good Conduct Metal, The Army of Occupation Medal, and The World War II Victory Medal. He returned home from the War where he was honorably discharged by the Army on November 28, 1946.

Upon returning from the war he joined his parents who had settled in Victory Acres. He purchased a 2 ton Ford truck and made use of it to haul grain and earn a living. At this time he would begin to court Lupe Esquer and would marry her 3 years later on October 1, 1949. They built a home in Victory Acres and raised a family of eight children.

During the 50's he would continue to haul grain; some of his deliveries included families like the Hayden Family, who ran and operated the Hayden Mill and Cliff Dobson of the Dobson family. In the 60's, he would go on and attend Mesa Community College to complete his certification in Bookkeeping. Shortly after Cano completed his certification, he partnered with others in the community to start a credit union through Saint Margaret's Catholic Church.

After leaving the credit union, he started at McClintock High School in the early 70's, joining the custodial staff, where he was highly admired by both staff and students alike for 20 years. About this time, he utilized his certification in bookkeeping and offered income tax services to those in the community out of his home. As his business grew over the next 40+ years his clientele grew to over 300 clients including several small businesses that he kept books for. At the age of 92 he decided it was time to close the books on this chapter of his life to enjoy long days in his garden.

Alex C. Mendivil was a wonderful, hard-working man who loved his wife and children. For 72 years he was married to Lupe Esquer Mendivil and they created a beautiful life together with their eight children and their spouses: Sylvia, Alexander, David and Rita, Daniel and Maria, Abraham and Noelle, Paul and Joann, John, and Veronica and Anthony. The richness of his legacy continues to grow with 23 grandchildren, 39 great grandchildren and 17 great great grandchildren.

Alex Mendivil lived a long and joyous life surrounded by his loving family that he cultivated and nurtured like one of his gardens. And while he was here on earth he enjoyed the bountiful harvest of his family. We hope now he can look down on us and smile; as we are the fruits of his labor.

# Cemetery

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## Queen of Heaven Cemetery

1500 E. Baseline Rd  
Mesa, AZ, 85201

# Events

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**JAN** **Viewing** 09:30AM

**15**

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Morning Star Apostolic Church  
3263 E. Guadalupe Road Gilbert, Gilbert, AZ, US,  
85234

**JAN** **Funeral Service** 10:30AM

**15**

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Morning Star Apostolic Church  
3263 E. Guadalupe Road Gilbert, Gilbert, AZ, US,  
85234

**JAN** **Graveside** 01:30PM

**15**

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Queen of Heaven Cemetery  
1500 E. Baseline Rd, Mesa, AZ, US, 85201

# Comments

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“ Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Alex Contreras Mendivil.



January 13 at 05:31 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alex Contreras Mendivil.



January 12 at 10:25 AM

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“ Al & Yolanda Gomez purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Alex Contreras Mendivil.



**Al & Yolanda Gomez** - January 11 at 04:14 PM

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“ I was recently told that he was an amazing man, another person described him as awesome. He was indeed. He was an amazing and awesome dad also! After his passing I was outside at their backyard and I was admiring all the plant life and shrubbery that he had laid down over the years. And I realized that I will never see him again outside of his house tending to his gardens. Nor sitting with him in his back room having a conversation with him listening to his stories, his jokes, and his laughter. He loved his children, Grand children, Great grand children, and great great grand children. So many precious memories. This is truly the end of an era for our family. I miss him tremendously! You have taught me so much dad not only in word but also by example. I love you pops!

**Abraham Mendivil Sr.** - January 09 at 10:32 AM

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“ I have so many memories with you Tata. I remember writing about you in an essay for school and I just appreciate you so much. I remember when I would go over in the mornings so you can walk me to the bus stop for school. I remember you were the first person to teach me how to cook scrambled eggs at such a young age. I love you so much and I couldn't ask for a better Tata.

**Alexis Mendivil** - January 09 at 04:45 AM



“ I was recently told that he was an amazing man, another person described him as awesome! Indeed he was, and not only that but, he was an amazing and awesome dad! I was at his house the other day and I was admiring the plants and shrubbery that he has put down over the years and realized that I won't see him tending to his garden anymore. Or having conversation with him in his back room, his stories, his laughter. I miss him tremendously. I love you dad!

**Abraham Mandivil Sr.** - January 09 at 09:13 AM

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“ I couldn't have asked for a better man to call Tata. I miss you so much. Being at your house feels different, seeing your garden without you in it just doesn't feel right. I picked your squash and Tia Rita made calabacitas. Nana loved them, she said it was soooo good. Ronnee sent me a picture of the squash and said "his last harvest" I cried. I walk into your sitting room but you're not sitting in your chair watching old westerns or the news. I'm waiting for you to ask me to cut your finger nails because they are getting too long, but I know you wont ever ask me again. Camping trips are a big part of my life thanks to you, taking us to the sink hole or the lake and teaching us how to fish. I just remember you fishing a lot. I hate this part of life, my life without you in it just doesn't seem fair. My last adventure with you was the best one yet, just me and you bonding over WWII memorabilia. We even found some cool things from the time you were in the war. I was so happy that day as I proudly introduced you to my staff and friends at work and how they were so gentle towards you. Our trips to home depot were fun even if it was to just go buy manure. Not sure if I can step in a home depot anytime soon, I'm going to have to switch to Lowes. I'm going to miss your stories, your mannerisms and most of all your laugh. Thank you tata for being some of the best parts of my life. I love you and miss you so much. Love your "webbit" Erica



Erica Mendivil - January 07 at 04:25 PM

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“ To my dear Tia Lupe and my dear Mendivil cousins, I share in your grief and in your sorrow. Tio Cano a patriarch to your family and part of our family has gone to his eternal rest. May God give us all the grace to accept his call home to His creator. I have wonderful memories of Tio in his younger years as a hard worker, eating lots of radishes and beets from the farm he a great sense of humor, and was a diligent contributor to the early St. Margaret's faith community. He was loved by my Dad Frank as his own brother and visited with him whenever possible. My earliest years of memory was Tio Cano and Dad Frank watching a boxing match 1959-1960 on a really heavy black and white TV and all the fun watching even thru all the terrible tv reception and static. They knew how to enjoy their company in a simple way before tech. I choose to keep the beauty of memory as we go through the future without our beloved Tio Cano. Your niece, Martha Lizarraga Ochoa

martha - January 06 at 11:51 PM

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“ My name is Alicia Zambrano we lived next door my Mother was his sister, I knew my Tio all my life. I love You Tio. He would tell me story's when he was in the Army, we would talk whenever I saw him in his garden. I will miss him. He lived a long life and was Blessed. I Love You Tio!

Alicia Zambrano - January 05 at 09:52 PM

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“ R.I.P Tio Cano I Will Miss Your Jokes, Stories and Concejos ..

It is a Blessing

It Was a Blessing and

Will Always Be a Blessing To Be Small Part of My Tio's Wonderful Life..

I'm Sorry To All My Cousins For the Loss of there Dad..

For there Loss of there Tata and

For the Loss of there Tio!!

Our Days Forever Changed that Day Alex C Mendivil Passed On To a Better Place .

From the Oldest Grandchild Nephew or Neice or Friend We are All taking steps without Alex C Mendivil that have never been taken before by any of Us..

We can Cry but We also can Laugh Smile and Feel the Blessing of What's Upon Us..

None of Us ever wanted to take the steps that are set for Us but Each step Is A Blessing!!

I hope You Me and We Find the Peace Understanding and Forgiveness We All Looking For!!



Jesse Bustamante - January 05 at 09:36 PM

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“ I don't know what to write. I always thought you will live forever. Pulling up to the house and seeing in your garden. I'm going to miss hearing you say little Paul and give me a hug. You loved us all and we loved you back. The hardest part is your not going to meet my son. But no that I will show him pictures of you and tell him stories of you. I love you so much. Until we meet again.

Paul mendivil Jr - January 05 at 07:07 PM

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“ Love you so much tata im gonna miss you.i have lots and lots of memories of camping with you and nana and watching you fish.when i would go visit and you were so proud of showing us what you grew in the garden and all the stories you told.R.I.P my handsome tata



Rosemary reyes - January 05 at 04:47 PM

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“ Love you tata gna miss you so much

Mara Reyes - January 05 at 03:59 PM



“ My name is Alicia Zambrano we lived next door my Mother was his sister,I knew my Tio all my Life. I love you Tio he would tell me story's when he was in the Army, we would talk when ever I saw him in his garden. I will miss him. He lived a long life and was Blessed. I love you Tio!

Alicia Zambrano - January 05 at 04:53 PM

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“ Dad. I miss you, I love you I'm so happy that you were such a great father and Tata to and my children. They love and miss you too. I have so many memories of us camping, Christmases, thanksgivings, just you and mom coming over and hanging out. Helping out with the computer during tax season, all your stories about the farm day your dad and mom. You remembered so much I admired that. I look back now and wish I could of spend more time with you. See you pass was one of the hardest time of my life, but I know you were very tired you lived a long bless time. Thank you so much for just being my dad. Love you miss you but never forget you my son....Paul



paul Mendivil - January 05 at 03:33 PM